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Fowl Registration Fee Increase

What you should know

What is the modified Fowl Registration Fee?

The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) requires the registration of domestic and exotic fowl sellers, distributors, or transporters who do not participate in disease surveillance programs recognized by the Commission. The Commission is authorized through Section 161.0411 of the Texas Agriculture Code to set fees under this section in amounts that do not exceed the amounts necessary to enable the Commission to recover the costs of administering this program. These fees were established with the inception of the fowl registration program in 2004 and have never been adjusted. However, based on the overall cost of the agency to manage the program, there is a need to adjust those fees to more adequately support the program.

The annual registration fee for a seller shall be based on the maximum number of fowl, during the previous twelve (12) months, being owned or managed by the registrant at any one time:

- (1) \$35.00 for less than 100 fowl.
- (2) \$125.00 for 100 to 499 fowl.
- (3) \$250.00 for 500 through 999 fowl.
- (4) \$400.00 for 1000 to 2,499 fowl.
- (5) \$600.00 for 2,500 fowl or greater.
- (6) \$600.00 for any registrant whose flock does not reside in the state of Texas, except in cases where the out of state registrant provides to the Commission an affidavit certifying a verified maximum flock size. The registration fee will be the same as the fee for Texas registrants with a corresponding flock size.

The annual certificate of registration fee for a distributor or transporter of fowl shall be \$600.

The annual certificate of registration fee for a combination seller, distributor or transporter of fowl shall be \$800.

How will the fee be assessed?

The Commission uses a graduated fee structure for registrants depending on flock size. The annual registration fee for a seller shall be based on the maximum number of fowl at any one time, during the previous twelve (12) months, being owned or managed by the registrant. Registration fees are nonrefundable.

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When will this fee go into effect?

The fee became effective on June 23, 2011. This fee will be in effect when anyone applies or renews a fowl registration.

Where do I send my fees?

Texas Animal Health Commission or TAHC
P. O. Box 12966
Austin, Texas 78711-2966

How long are the fees valid?

The fees are valid for one year from the effective date of your registration.

What is Fowl Registration?

During the 2003 Texas legislative session, House Bill 2328 was passed and signed into law. It required the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock and poultry health regulatory agency, to develop a registration program for fowl sellers, distributors and transporters who do not participate in recognized poultry or fowl disease surveillance programs. In early 2004, the TAHC Commissioners adopted regulations for the registration program, effective May 1, 2004. Many poultry diseases are highly contagious, and during an outbreak, threaten the state's commercial chicken and turkey industry, noncommercial flocks, caged pet birds and fowl raised for agricultural exhibition.

How do I find out more about Fowl Registration?

If you have any questions about the fowl registration program, please contact TAHC at 1-800-550-8242 or by email fowlregistration@tahc.state.tx.us.